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Message Text

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46
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-05 AID-05 DOTE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAE-00 INT-05 /048 W
---------- 035233
R 211358Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9481
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELTN, WZ
SUBJECT: ACCIDENT ON SWAZILAND RAILWAY

REF: MBABANE 513

1. ACCORDING TO GENERAL MANAGER OF SWAZILAND RAILWAY, THERE HAS BEEN AN ACCIDENT ON THE RAILROAD IN MOZAMBQIURE, 15 KILOMETERS EAST OF THE SWAZILAND/MOZAMBIQUE BORDER, IN WHICH A BRIDGE HAS BEEN "KNOCKED OUT."

PRELIMINARY REPORTS INDICATE THAT IT WILL TAKE A MINIMUM OF TWO WEEKS TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE, AND REOPEN THE LINE.

2. COMMENT: THIS ACCIDENT POINTS UP THE ALMOST TOTAL DEPENDENCE OF THE SWAZI ECONOMY ON ITS SINGLE RAIL LINK TO THE PORT OF MAPUTO. AS A RESULT OF THE ACCIDENT, ALL SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE FROM THE SIODC
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HAVE BEEN HALTED AND SWAZILAND'S EXPORTS OF CITRUS, CANNED FRUIT AND

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SUGAR ARE ALSO THREATENED. (HOWEVER, SWAZILAND SUGAR ASSOCIATION REPORTS THAT ITS OPERATIONS WILL NOT BE SEVERELY AFFECTED IF SHIPMENTS

CAN BE RESUMED BY MAY 5.) SINCE THE BULK OF SWAZILAND'S GASOLINE IS IMPORTED VIA MAPUTO, THERE WILL ALSO BE A FUEL SHORTAGE UNLESS ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUPPLY CAN BE FOUND VERY SOON.

3. THIS INCIDENT WILL GIVE RENEWED IMPETUS TO GOS PLANS TO ESTABLISH A NEW LINK BETWEEN PHUZUMOYA AND GOLLEL, THUS PROVIDING AN ALTERNATE OUTLET VIA RICHARDS BAY. A FEASIBILITY STUDY RECOMMENDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH A LINK AS ECONOMICALLY VIABLE WAS PRESENTED TO GOS CABINET TWO MONTHS AGO BUT NO ACTION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN.
LANE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RAILROAD ACCIDENT, CARGO HANDLING, ACCESS TO PORTS, BRIDGES (STRUCTURES)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MBABAN00646
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760151-0512
From: MBABANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760439/aaaabhbz.tel
Line Count: 74
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MBABANE 513
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACCIDENT ON SWAZILAND RAILWAY
TAGS: ELTN, WZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
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